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Application No.: 10/710,406

Examiner: Poker, Jennifer A

Art Unit: 2832

Applicant: Taipei Multipower Electronics Co., Ltd.

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

Claims 1-16 remaining pending in this application of which Claims 1-3, and 6-8 have been amended, claims 4-5 have been canceled and claims 10-16 have been newly added to more explicitly describe the claimed invention. Amendments to claim 1 and the subject matters of newly added claim 10 are fully supported at Figures 2, 4 and 5, lines 12-15 of paragraph [0039] and Figures 7, 8 and 9 of paragraph [0041], respectively. It is believed that no new matter adds by way of amendments to claims or otherwise to the application. For at least the following reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-16 are in proper condition for allowance and reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

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Claim Rejection under 35 USC 102

The Office Action rejected claims 1-4 and 7 under 35 U.SC. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Chiang et al. (US-6,483,411, hereinafter Chiang).

Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the above rejections as set forth

below.

The present invention is directed to a transformer module. The independent

claim 1 and the newly added claim 10, as amended, among other things, recites at least

[at least two bobbins, each bobbin enclosing a hollow central region and comprising a

receiving hole, wherein two sides of each bobbin comprises an inlaying portion and a

buckling portion, and wherein a plurality of terminals extend from said buckling

portion, wherein said buckling portion at two sides of each bobbin comprise a

buckling element and a buckling groove respectively, and wherein said buckling

element of one of said bobbins is buckled to said buckling groove of another bobbin

of said bobbins; and a single transmission element, comprising a holding portion at

two sides thereof, wherein said transmission element is secured at said inlaying

portion of each bobbin by inlaying said holding portion of the single transmission

element into said inlaying portion of each bobbin and thereby electrically connecting

said single transmission element with said core element to form a single magnetic

loop for each bobbin]. The advantage of the above features is that only one magnetic

field is formed for one bobbin, and therefore at least the problems due to interference of

(two) magnetic fields generated by the two magnetic loops due to two transmission

elements electrically connected to a common transmission element as in the prior art can

be effectively eliminated.

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Applicant respectfully submits that the amended independent claim 1 and the newly added independent claim 10 are allowable over Chiang for at least the reason that Chiang fails to teach or disclose every features of the claimed invention. More specifically, Chiang fails to teach or disclose a transformer module comprising at least sat least two bobbins, each bobbin enclosing a hollow central region and comprising a receiving hole, wherein two sides of each bobbin comprises an inlaying portion and a buckling portion, and wherein a plurality of terminals extend from said buckling portion, wherein said buckling portion at two sides of each bobbin comprise a buckling element and a buckling groove respectively, and wherein said buckling element of one of said bobbins is buckled to said buckling groove of another bobbin of said bobbins as required by the amended independent claim 1 and the newly added independent claim 10. Instead Chiang substantially discloses a structure of a transformer with a single bobbin. Accordingly, Chiang cannot anticipate claims 1 and 10 in this regard.

Furthermore, Chiang also substantially fails to teach or disclose [a single transmission element, comprising a holding portion at two sides thereof, wherein said transmission element is secured at said inlaying portion of each bobbin by inlaying said holding portion of the single transmission element into said inlaying portion of each bobbin and thereby electrically connecting said single transmission element with said core element to form a single magnetic loop for each bobbin] as required by the amended claim 1 and the newly added independent claim 10. Instead, Chiang substantially discloses, at Figure 3B, a transformer comprising two transmission elements (306, 308) electrically connected to the common core element (304) inserted in the hollow space of the bobbin (302). In other words, because Chiang substantially

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teaches two transmission elements (306, 308) electrically connected to the common core

element (304), two magnetic loops will be formed, which will generate two magnetic

fields close to each other that would inevitably interfere with each other. Accordingly,

Applicant respectfully submits that Chiang cannot possibly anticipate each and every

features of the claimed invention as recited by the amended independent claim 1 and the

newly added independent claim 10.

Therefore, Chiang at least lacks two elements of claims 1 and 10 as described

above, thus Chiang cannot possibly anticipate claims 1 and 10 in this regard.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Chiang also fails to teach or

disclose [a lid, covering a top of said bobbin, electrically connected to said

transmission element] as required by the newly added independent claim 10, instead

Chiang substantially fails to even mention any lid covering a top of the bobbin

electrically to the transmission element. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits

that Chiang lacks three elements of the newly added claim 10 in this regard, and

therefore Chiang cannot possibly anticipate the newly added claim 10 as well.

Claims 2-3 and 7, and claims 11-16, which depend from the independent claims 1

and 10, directly or indirectly, are also patentable over Chiang, at least because of their

dependency from an allowable base claim.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-3,

7 and 10-16 patently define over Chiang, and therefore claims 1-3, 7 and 10-16 should

be allowed. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

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Claim Rejection under 35 USC 103

1. The Office Action rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.SC. 103(a) as being

unpatenable over Chiang in view of Ishiwaki et al. (US-5,847,518, hereinafter Ishiwaki).

Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matters of claims 4-5 have been

integrated into the independent claim 1, and claims 4-5 have been canceled without

prejudice of disclaimer.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the above rejections and would like to point

out that Ishiwaki substantially fails to teach, suggest or disclose [a buckling portion at two

sides of each bobbin comprise a buckling element and a buckling groove respectively,

and wherein said buckling element of one of said bobbins is buckled to said buckling

groove of another bobbin of said bobbins], as required by the amended claim 1. Instead,

Ishiwaki at Figures 3-5 substantially teaches that the two bobbins (3, 4) are jointed

securely by penetrating the end portions of the core elements (5, 5') into the through hole

of the two bobbins (3, 4). Accordingly, both Chiang and Ishiwaki, either alone or in

combination, can not possibly render every features of the amended claim 1 obvious in

this regard. Therefore, at least for the foregoing reasons, claim 1 also patently defines over

Chiang and Ishiwaki. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the above rejections is

respectfully requested.

2. The Office Action rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.SC. 103(a) as being

unpatenable over Chiang in view of Yeh et al. (US-6,734,777, hereinaster Yeh).

Applicants respectfully disagree and would like to point out that even though the

Examiner relied upon Yeh for disclosing the insulating shell 300, still Yeh cannot cure the

specific deficiencies of Chiang for at least the reasons discussed above. Therefore, claims

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8-9 also patently define over Chiang and Yeh for at least the same reasons discussed above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the above rejections is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, because Yeh substantially teaches an insulating shell (300), therefore, it is obvious that the insulating shell cannot possibly electrically connect to the transmission element as required by the newly added claim 10, and therefore cannot possibly achieve the feature of stabilizing the signal transmission. Therefore, at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims 10-16 also patently define over Chiang and Yeh as well. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-16 of the present application are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted

Date: 03/10/2005 Name: Chin-Jung Phon

Title: President

Taipei Multipower Electronics Co., Ltd. 2F-4-5, No. 148, Sec. 4, Chung Hsiao E. Rd.,

Taipei, Taiwan, R. O. C. Tel: 886 2 8771 8948 Fax: 886-2-8771 9757

E-mail: foreign@yc-patent.com